M. B. FUTHEY JR. President, Transportation Division

JOHN PREVISICH Assistant President General Secretary and Treasurer Transportation Division

JAMES A. STEM JR. National Legislative Director, Transportation Division

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304 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. S.E. WASHINGTON, DC 20003-1147 PHONE: 202-543-7714 • FAX: 202-544-3024 www.utu.org EMAIL: jstem@smart-union.org

Transportation Division

Washington Legislative Office

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the SMART-Transportation Division (formerly the United Transportation Union), I respectfully request that you consider and join in support of S. 1009, the new Chemical Safety Improvement Act (CSIA) of 2013, sponsored by the late Senator Lautenberg and Senator Vitter.

As the U.S. chemical industry prepares for a new wave of domestic investment that will build major new facilities and support construction, manufacturing and transportation jobs, your support for a significantly improved chemical safety law is critical. The chemical industry directly and indirectly supports good jobs for millions of Americans, and the substantial tonnage of chemical shipments on the Nation's freight railroads helps to support railroad jobs.

The CSIA will amend Title I of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to improve the safety of consumers and workers, and improve the TSCA so that chemical substance risks are better understood and managed. Importantly, as the list of cosponsors shows, the CSIA is a true bipartisan compromise with a real opportunity to achieve passage. With your support, the CSIA will be the first update to TSCA since it was originally adopted in 1976. The CSIA already has 22 cosponsors from across the political spectrum and we believe this bill deserves your support.

S.1009 will accomplish key goals: protect health and the environment; rebuild public confidence in federal chemical regulations; recognize the States' role in this system; focus on the information needed to make chemical safety determinations; promote greater transparency of information while protecting confidential business information; and promote innovation in the U.S. chemical industry and its diverse value chain. In short, CSIA will strengthen our chemical regulations <u>and</u> support the U.S. chemical industry's ability to grow, innovate and create jobs.

We are prepared to work with you in support of the bipartisan, achievable modernization of chemical regulations as set forth in S. 1009.

Sincerely yours,

James A. Stem, Jr.

National Legislative Director

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